

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed January 11, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully considered. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections are respectfully requested in view of the forgoing amendments and the following remarks.

Annotated replacement drawings accompany this amendment, in which the axial bore 64 and retainer 72 have had reference numerals added. Further, the specification has been amended so the reference number 38 is consistently used for the pin feeler. The examiner is courteously thanked for the detailed review of the specification and drawings. In view of these amendments, withdrawal of the objection to the drawing is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 23, 25 and 26 were rejected by as being anticipated by Kiffe et al. Claims 3-5, 8-10, 13-15, 19-22, 24, 27 and 28 were rejected as being unpatentable over Kiffe et al.

The indication in the office action that claims 6, 7, 16 and 17 reflect allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation.

Without conceding the propriety of the art rejections, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 6, and claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 16. Accordingly, it is believed the rejected has been rendered moot with respect to the those claims and further comments thereon is not necessary.

In addition, claim 23 has been amended to include the feature that was recited in allowable claim 6. While amended claim 23 does differ from amended claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that it is allowable for similar reasons as claim 1. Accordingly, examination in the allowance of this amended claim is also respectfully requested.

Docket No. 05165.1360
Serial No. 10/776,614
Customer No. 30734

Patent

In view of the forgoing, reconsideration and allowance of the application is believed in order and such action is earnestly solicited.

In the event this paper is not time filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036 with reference to Attorney Docket No. 87202.1840.

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG. 2B

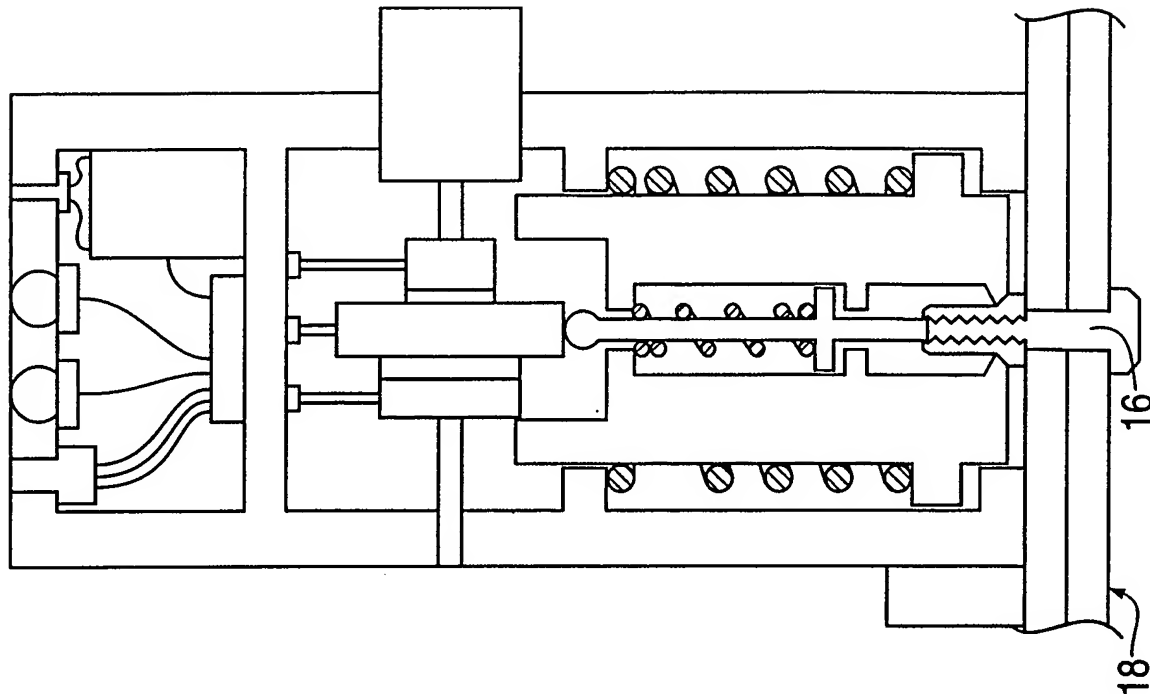


FIG. 2A

